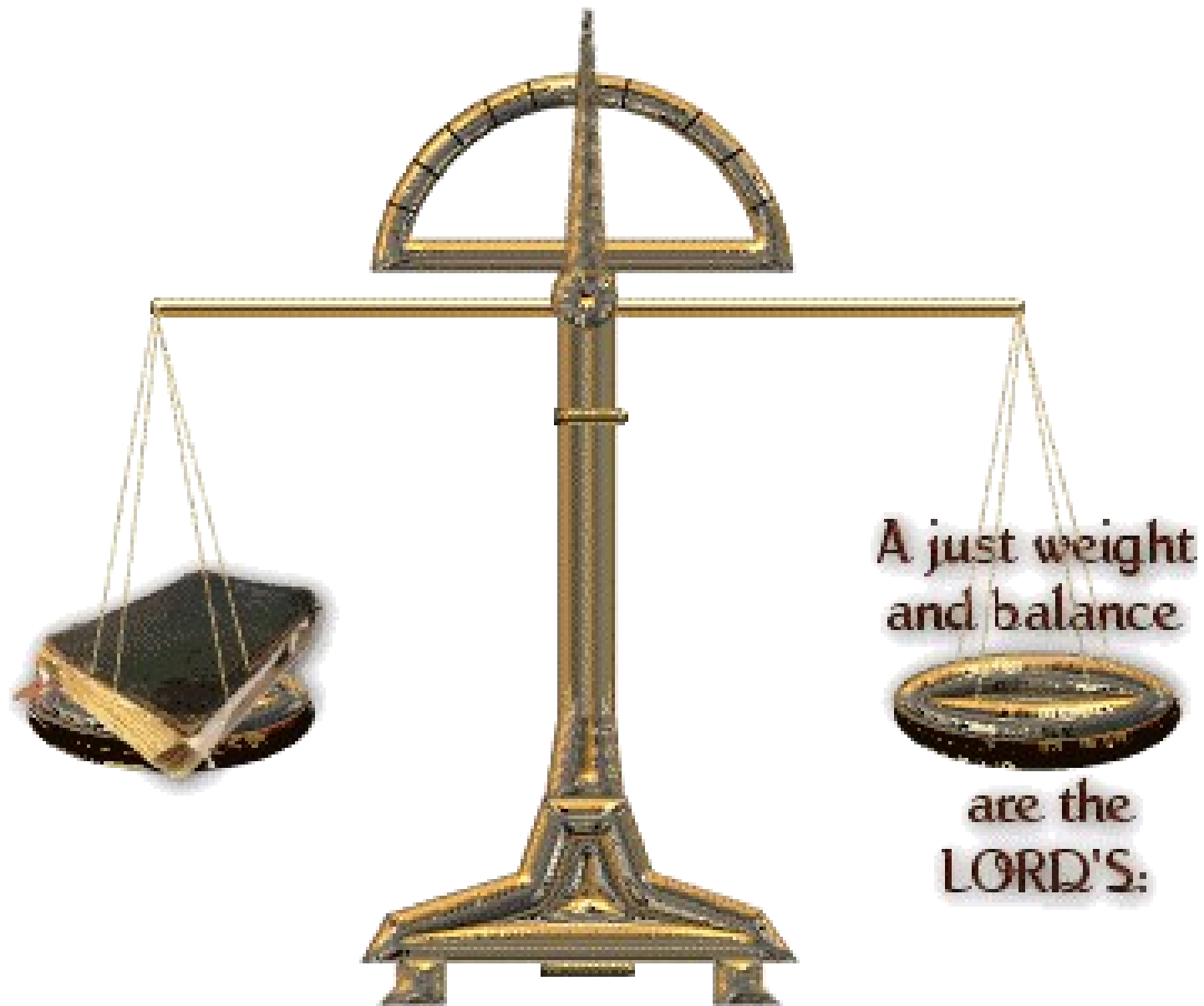


- Church Web Site

www.tryonchurchofchrist.com

All sermons are posted here
plus additional resources



A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- We begin today's lesson with some pictures of a city known as Edom or Petra.
- This will give you some appreciation why the Edomites were proud and arrogant.
 - Proverbs 16:18
*Pride goes before destruction,
and an haughty spirit
before a fall.*

- The following
are pictures
relating to
our lesson in
Obadiah.

Hidden away until August 22, 1812













- Anyone who feels
frustrated
that injustice
sometimes
goes unpunished
should know about
Obadiah.

- Obadiah
teaches us
about God's
long-term plan
to bring closure to issues
that military
and
judicial action
struggles to accomplish.

- **It's a comforting book to read**
after hearing an unsettling news report
of terrorism, racial injustice, genocide, etc.
- **Anytime the innocent are targeted**
and we're left waiting for
justice to be done,
the book of Obadiah
reassures us that
God never relegates
unresolved injustices
to a shelf of cold cases.
- **He never forgets.**

- To understand who the Edomites were and why God wanted them gone, one needs to know the story of Jacob and Esau.
- Their ongoing combative relationship.
- The antagonism their descendants felt toward one another for generations.
 - It is an ancient version of the famous feud between the Hatfields & McCoys.

- The message of Obadiah is that the Edomites would be exterminated.
- Because of their unrepentant, remorseless terrorism against Israel.
- The conspicuous absence of all things Edomite is potent proof that God's prophecy has been fulfilled literally.

- It isn't difficult
to connect the dots
for our people
from that
historical reality
to warnings about
the world today.

- As sure as the Word of God was about the judgment on Edom,
- Certain is the doom that awaits all who reject the forgiveness and mercy to be found only in Jesus Christ.

- The same Bible that predicted the devastation of Edom, who rejected God's offer of forgiveness, is the same Bible that promises the destruction of those who reject Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

- Luke 13:3

***Except you repent,
you shall all likewise perish***

- The Edomites were descendants of Esau,
the rejected twin of the chosen Jacob.
- The only way to have access to forgiveness is
through the covenant God made to Abraham
which the Edomites failed to do..

- Romans 3:23

*For all have sinned,
and come short of
the glory of God;*

- The only refuge from God's wrath
is to be protected under His covenant.

- Acts 2:47

*And the Lord added to the church daily
such as should be saved.*

- **Why preach Obadiah?**
- Because people need to **bask in the comfort** **that God will bring justice** to those who **target the innocent.**

- Abortion, genocide, racial injustice, acts of terrorism, and violence make us cry out for justice.
- But God will bring closure in his time.
- *for the iniquity of the Amorites* is not yet full.
(**Genesis 15:16**)
- And that is a message from the book of Obadiah

- The book of Obadiah is not well known but it contains some **powerful lessons for our day.**

- It is the only **one-chapter book** in the Old Testament and contains only **21 verses.**

- The occasion of the book is some recent attack on Jerusalem by the Philistines in which Edom had aided and abetted.

- **Edom had:**
 - Encouraged Judah's foes,
 - Enjoyed Judah's fall,
 - Enslaved Judah's fugitives.
 - The book warns Edom of her own coming destruction for her sins against her brother.

- **OBADIAH'S MESSAGE**

- The fall of Edom
is because of
Edom's sin.

- Her sin of
pride
and
cruelty.

- Her crimes are described **in progressive stages:**
 - **# 1** Edom stood by while Jerusalem was invaded v.11
 - **# 2** She rejoiced over the captivity of sons of Judah v.12.
 - **# 3** She actively participated in looting Jerusalem v.13;
 - **# 4** Edom prevented their brethren from escaping
 - **# 5** And sold them into slavery V. 14

• THE HISTORY OF EDM.

- 1. The people of Edom descended from Esau, Jacob's twin brother.
- 2. There was sibling rivalry between Edom and Israel, found first in Esau and Jacob.

- The twins struggled in their mother's womb.
(Genesis 25:22-26).
- Esau sold his birthright
to Jacob.
(Genesis 25:27-34).
- Jacob stole Esau's blessing
as the firstborn.
(Genesis 27)

- While Jacob and Esau eventually reconciled.
(Genesis 32-33).
- Their descendants were often at odds
with one another.

- In the Exodus,
Edom refused Israel passage
through their land.
(**Numbers 20:14-21**)
- Edom was finally
conquered by David.
(**2 Samuel 8:13-14**).
- During the reign of
Jehoram,
Edom revolted.
(**2 Kings 8:20-22**).

- Located south of the Dead Sea, they built their cities in the cliffs and thought themselves secure from attack.
- The Edomites were a rough and tough group of mountain people.

- They carved great protective fortresses in the rock mountains.
- One of their principle cities was Sela (Hebrew),
or
Petra (Greek),
which simply meant
"The Rock".
- After the prophecy of Obadiah...

- The Edomites were overcome by the Nabataeans (Arabs), forced to settle south of Judah.
 - Around 100 B.C., they were conquered by the Maccabees.
 - The Maccabees forced many of them to be circumcised and accept the Law.
 - Herod the Great was a Moabite.
 - By 100 A.D., Edom as a race and nation had become lost to history.

- **A COMING JUDGMENT IS PREDICTED**
TO FALL ON EDOM
(**Obadiah 1:1-9**).
- "***The vision of Obadiah:***
Thus says the Lord GOD
concerning Edom.
- ***We have heard a report from the LORD,***
And an envoy has been sent among
the nations saying,
'Arise and let us go against her for battle....'
(**v.1**).
- What does this say to us
about world affairs and wars?

- **Deceived by pride in her location,**
Edom will be brought down.
 - ***"Behold, I will make you
small among the nations;***
 - ***You are greatly despised.***
The arrogance of your heart has deceived you,
 - ***You who live in the clefts of the rock,
In the loftiness of your dwelling place,***
 - ***Who say in your heart,
'Who will bring me down to earth?'
Though you build high like the eagle,***
 - ***Though you set your nest
among the stars,***
 - ***From there I will bring you down,'
declares the LORD" (vs.2-4).***

- **Their Destruction will be complete.**
 - ***"If thieves came to you,
If robbers by night
O how you will be ruined!***
 - ***Would they not steal only
until they had enough?***
 - ***If grape gatherers came to you,
Would they not leave
some gleanings?***
 - ***O how Esau will be ransacked,
And his hidden treasures searched out!"***
(vs.5-6).

- **Edom will be betrayed by her allies.**

- **Obadiah 1:7**

***All your allies will force you
from your homeland!***

- ***Your treaty partners
will deceive you
and overpower you.***

- ***Your trusted friends
will set an ambush for you
that will take you by surprise!***

- **Not even wisdom and might**
can save them
because God is against them.

- **Obadiah 1:8-9**

**At that time,” the LORD says,
“I will destroy the
wise sages of Edom,
the advisers from Esau’s mountain!**

- **Your warriors will be shattered,...
so that everyone will be destroyed
from Esau’s mountain!**

- **THE REASON FOR JUDGMENT ON EDM**
(**vs.10-16**).

- Notice carefully that Edom is being judged
for her violence toward Jacob.

- **"Because of violence to your brother Jacob,
You will be covered with shame,
And you will be cut off forever.**
 - **On the day that you stood aloof,**
 - **On the day that strangers
carried off his wealth,
And foreigners entered his gate**
 - **And cast lots for Jerusalem,
You too were as one of them"** (**vs.10-11**).

- A rebuke
against their conduct,

- Obadiah 1:12-14

- 12 *You should not have gloated
when your relatives suffered
calamity.*

- *You should not have rejoiced
over the people of Judah when
they were destroyed.*

- *You should not have boasted
when they suffered adversity.*

- A rebuke
against their conduct,

- Obadiah 1:12-14

- **1:13** *You should not have entered the city of my people when they experienced distress.*
- *You should not have joined in gloating over their misfortune when they suffered distress.*
- *You should not have looted their wealth when they endured distress.*

- A rebuke
against their conduct,
- Obadiah 1:12-14
- 1:14 *You should not have stood at the fork in the road to slaughter those trying to escape.*
- *You should not have captured their refugees when they suffered adversity.*

- Therefore the
"Day of the Lord"
for them will mean receiving
the same sort of treatment!
- ***"For the day of the LORD
draws near on all the nations.
As you have done,
it will be done to you.***
- ***Your dealings will return
on your own head.
Because just as you drank
on My holy mountain,
All the nations will drink continually.
They will drink and swallow
And become as if
they had never existed"*** (vs.15-16).

- **Deliverance** and **holiness**
will be found on **Mt. Zion**,
not Mt. Seir
 - Mt. Seir being
the prominent mountain in Edom.
 - ***"But on Mount Zion
there will be those who escape.
And it will be holy."
(Obadiah 1:17).***
- **There is not the slightest hint**
whatever in this passage
of any return of literal Jews
to Palestine.

- **The Tabernacle**
sat on Mt. Zion.
- So God sat enthroned
in this Most Holy Place.
 - **It was God**
and not the people
who made
Mt. Zion superior
to Mt Seir.

- **The saved assembled**
upon that mountain.
 - The “saved” today
find their salvation
on Mt. Zion.
(Revelation 14:1)
- God still sits on His throne
in the new Jerusalem
on Mt. Zion
(Hebrews. 12:22-24).

- **Hebrews 12:22-24** (ASV)

22 but you are come unto **mount Zion**,
and unto the city of the living God,
the heavenly Jerusalem,
and to innumerable hosts of angels,

- **23** to the general assembly and
church of the firstborn
who are enrolled in heaven,
and to God the Judge of all, and to the
spirits of just men made perfect,

- **24** and to Jesus
the mediator of a new covenant...

- The house of Jacob
shall consume the
house of Esau,
- *"And the house of Jacob
will possess their possessions.*
- *Then the house of Jacob will be a fire
And the house of Joseph a flame;*
 - *But the house of Esau
will be as stubble.*
 - *And they will set them on fire
and consume them,
So that there will be no survivor
of the house of Esau,'*
- *For the LORD has spoken" (vs.17-18).*

- Judah's people
were not any better
than Edom's.
- It was the fact that
Jehovah sat on Zion,
not Seir.
 - Therefore,
there is strength
in the Lord.
 - Isaiah 59:1
Behold, the LORD'S hand
is not shortened,
that it cannot save;
neither his ear heavy,
that it cannot hear:

- THE FULFILLED PROPHECY.
- ITS IMMEDIATE FULFILLMENT.
 - Edom's destruction began with the Babylonian invasion under Nebuchadnezzar (600 B.C.).
 - It continued into the fourth century B.C. with the invasion of the Arabs known as the Nabataeans, forcing them to a region south of Judah.
 - In the second century B.C., the Maccabees brought them under Jewish subjection when Judas Maccabeus slew twenty thousand of them.
 - And forced the remnant to accept circumcision and the Law.

- The prophets were not intending **that all they predicted of Mount Zion would be fulfilled literally.**

- Their predictions of the glorious things that were to happen there were intended to be **fulfilled in the Messiah and His kingdom.**

- This is plainly apparent when one compares **the scriptures listed below..**

(Isa_33:17-24; Eze_34:11-31; Isa_28:16; 1Pe_2:6; Zec_9:9; Mat_21:5; Isa_59:20-21; Rom_11:25; and especially, Gal_4:25 ff; Heb_12:22-24).

- That the members of the New Testament church were to be the recipients of the prophetic blessings is shown quite conclusively by the following scriptures:

(Act_3:11-26; Act_13:29-37;
Act_15:13-18; Rom_3:21-22;
Rom_9:2-8; Rom_15:8; Rom_15:12;
Rom_15:20-21; Rom_15:27;
Rom_16:25-27; Heb_12:18-29).

- **ITS ULTIMATE FULFILLMENT...**
- Began with the coming of Jesus Christ.
- For with His coming the establishment of His the spiritual kingdom **deliverance** and **holiness** are found on **Mt. Zion** that is Jerusalem.
- ***That repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name unto all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.***
(**Luke 24:47**)
- # 227 On Zion's Glorious Summit

- **CONCLUSION:**

- **The prophets were not limited**
in their prophecies
to just the nation of Israel.
 - God held the
heathen nations
accountable for their actions.
- While it was written primarily
to comfort the Israelites
in Obadiah's day,
there are lessons
to be gleaned
for us as well...

- **The message of hope**
has its ultimate fulfillment
in what we can enjoy
ourselves today,
in the person and work of Jesus!

- **In verse 15,**
we find the expression
"the day of the Lord".

- An expression often used
by the prophets referring to
God's judgment upon the nations.

- The particular
"day of the Lord"
of which Obadiah wrote
was "**near**",
and was fulfilled with
the destruction of Edom.

- **But there is another**
"day of the Lord"
yet to come.
- Of which God's judgments
upon the nations
were only a shadow
of that which is to come.

- **Think on these things**
 - **Philippians 4:8**

**The doors of the church
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride
Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17



- 05-14-2023 Tryon, NC